

REMARKS

Applicants have canceled Claims 7-23 and 32-49 without prejudice and Claims 1-6 and 24-31 remain in this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cancellation of Claims 7-23 and 32-49 has been made in good faith and that no new matter has been added.

The Examiner has requested an election of subject matter specified in Claims 1-49 of the pending application pursuant to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-6 and 24-31, drawn to an apparatus, classified under Class 422, Subclass 50.
- II. Claims 7-12, drawn to a method for producing an albumin-depleted sample, Classified under Class 435, Subclass 4.
- III. Claims 13-17, drawn to an albumin depleted sample, Classified in Class 436, Subclass 518.
- IV. Claims 18-23, drawn to a method of binding a bromosulphophthalein ligand, Classified in Class 435, Subclass 71.
- V. Claims 32-37, drawn to a method for producing a protein depleted sample comprising a sample with one or more additional proteins, Classified in Class 435, Subclass 174.
- VI. Claim 38, drawn to an albumin protein depleted sample with one or more additional proteins, Classified in Class 436, Subclass 530.
- VII. Claims 39-42, drawn to a spin column, Classified in Class 422, Subclass 58.
- VIII. Claims 43-46, drawn to a method for producing an albumin-depleted sample comprising a spin column, Classified in Class 435, Subclass 288.6.
- IX. Claims 47-49, drawn to a kit, Classified in Class 422, Subclass 59.

Applicants respectfully elect Group I, consisting of Claims 1-6 and 24-31, without traverse.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to the non-elected subject matter including the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications to that subject matter, as now embraced in non-elected Claims 7-23 and 32-49. Applicants respectfully submit that the election has been made in good faith and that pending Claims 1-6 and 24-31 are in proper form for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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